

REMARKS

Informalities

Corrections to the specification have been submitted to address various informalities raised by the Examiner.

A proposed revision to Fig. 2 is included herewith. The proposed revision corrects errors in Fig. 2.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1-11 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The Action asserts that claim 1 is indefinite because it fails to recite copying. However, a close inspection of claim 1 shows that claim 1 clearly recites "*copying the entries* of the first table to as second table to create a second virtual disk." Therefore, Applicant submits that the claim is not lacking an essential element.

The Action asserts that claim 17 is indefinite because it recites "completing operations at the table." The Action asserts there is no corresponding term(s) in the specification. Applicant submits that this term is set forth at page 18, lines 1-15.

The Action asserts that claim 19 is indefinite because it recites "obtaining mapping information." Applicant submits that the processes for obtaining mapping information are set forth at page 16, lines 19-29.

The Action asserts that claim 20 is indefinite. Claim 20 has been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection.

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1-16 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

The Action asserts that claims 1-7 and 20 are missing an essential step. As noted above, careful inspection of claim 1 reveals that no essential steps are missing.

The Action further asserts that claims 8, and 10 are indefinite because they recite "creating a new segment". The Action cites language in the specification at page 16, lines 10-12 to support the rejection. Applicant notes

that this language addresses only *selecting and allocating* free segments; it does not address *creating* new segments. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejection of claims 8 and 10 is inappropriate and should be withdrawn.

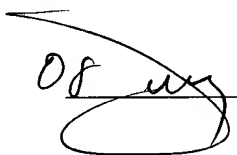
Claim 12 has been amended to delete the language that prompted the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Conclusion

In view of all of the above, pending claims 1-19 are believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fees are believed to be due for this Response. However, any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

 2003



William J. Kubida, No. 29,664
Hogan & Hartson LLP
(719) 448-5909 Tel
(303) 899-7333 Fax